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No. 11

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Short Course At Lacombe

Its Success Probably Means the Early Establishment of an Agricultural College.

Reports coming from Lacombe where a short course in agriculture was given under the direction of Mr. H. A. Craig, Superintendent of Fairs and Institutes, are most encouraging, and speak well for the gentlemen who have charge of this work, for the young men and women who were there as students, also for the town of Lacombe whose citizens have entered heartily into the enterprise and supported it in every possible way. One result of the school may safely be stated as being that of bringing clearly into the horizon an Alberta Agricultural College. Resolutions in favor of an institution of this kind have been introduced in various bodies in the past, but the suggestions have always been looked upon as premature. These objections are now disappearing, and it is generally understood that the time for the

establishment of an Agricultural College in this Province is at hand. Almost every part of the Province was represented at this school. Although most of the pupils came from the vicinity of Lacombe, the most distant points of the Province in which agriculture is now being carried on had their representatives. There were pupils from as far south as Pincher Creek and Taber, north to Edmonton, east to Lloydminster on the C. N. R. and Sedgewick on the Wetaskiwin branch of the C.P.R. The course of instruction corresponded very closely with the system of agriculture which is considered best adapted to the conditions prevailing in Alberta. Although the requirements of successful grain growing, such as seed selection, soil cultivation, and proper handling of farm crops were given due attention and consideration, live stock pro-

duction was made the prominent feature. Poultry raising and dairy- ing were given special attention. Most of the poultry work was handled by Mr. Foley, the poultry commissioner, and the success which attended his efforts and the interest which he aroused in this subject, which in the past has been looked upon and spoken of with more or less of contempt, was evidenced by the fact that at the meeting held on Thursday evening, March 11th, Day's Hall was filled to the limit with students and the townspeople of Lacombe, and the applause which was accorded Mr. Foley at the conclusion of his lecture was an evidence that his audience was in accord with his purpose and his remarks, and that the information which he had given them was what they were in need of. The afternoon sessions were taken up by stock judging, for which purpose a large tent had been provided. Specimens of both the beef and dairy breeds of cattle were brought into the ring. A brief history of the breed was given by the speaker, also the characteristics of the breed and the objects which the originators of the breed had in view. After this, various animals were judged as to their conformity with the characteristics which had been laid down. The pupils were then asked to place the animals and to give their reasons for the placing and after this the animal was judged by the score card. The same system of instruction was followed in horse judging also. While it is impossible in a short course such as this to develop proficient judges of live stock, the things which were aimed at were accomplished, and that is the fixing in the minds of the pupils the fundamental characteristics of the various breeds of farm animals with which they will have to deal in their future careers as farmers and stockmen. With these fundamental ideas firmly established new information can be gathered from observation and experience.

The attendance at the school was exceptionally good. The morning lectures given in the old school building of Lacombe had an attendance ranging from 70 to 85 pupils. The afternoon lectures which always drew a number of visitors had an attendance ranging from 140 to 180 persons.

On Friday evening an illustrated

(Continued on page 11)

What Good Citizenship Means

An address, peculiarly appropriate to election time delivered
at the Edmonton Canadian Club by
Rev. C. H. Heustis of Red Deer.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of
the Canadian Club:

I am glad to be with you today. The last time I attended a Canadian Club luncheon was in the City of Vancouver last fall when that splendid pro-consul of the Empire, Lord Milner, spoke so wisely as to our national life and our relations to the Empire.

On the other side of the international boundary line they have a man with a big stick—a sort of incarnate conscience of the people of the United States. We also have in this country a big stick, but it is not in the hands of one man, but of many thousands of Canadian men who stand for the purity of Canadian life and the maintenance of Canadian institutions—it is called the Canadian Club. The organization and wide extension of this institution is significant of an interest on the part of Canadian men in questions that are wider than any section or party or province, but concern the nation as a whole. There is thus being created and nurtured throughout Canada a sense of national unity and of national destiny that one cannot but contemplate with feelings of satisfaction.

I am thus led to my own subject the Imperatives of Citizenship. What is the nature of these imperatives? Are they such as appeal to men as men without regard to their religious or political affiliations I think that you will agree with me when I say that one thing that distinguishes the men of to-day from those of, say, a half century ago, is that the men of to-day have entered into a condition of intellectual and religious freedom practically unknown to their fathers. Up to the middle of the last century the conduct and consciences of men were regulated generally by considerations of authority and of institutions. The age of authority has passed, the age of reason has come. It is true that there are men to-day of the highest character and some of pre-eminent intelligence who are willing to submit their thought and their conduct in some of the phases of life to outward authority, but the number of such is growing steadily less. So far at least as religion is concerned we live to-day in a world that recognizes no authority but such as appeals to reason and conscience. The religious machine no longer dominates the thought and conduct of men. For this we should be devoutly thankful.

Can the same be said of the political machine? There can be no doubt that the political machine does not hold the place in politics it did a decade ago. Both in the United States and in Canada the type of public man who is winning the approval of the people is not the master-mechanic of the party machinery, who seeks to shape public policies with reference to party interests and party victory at the polls, but the man who with statesmanlike outlook works with an eye single to the public welfare. We need only think of such men as the Premier

of the Dominion, the leader of the Opposition, and the Premier of our own province to realize the truth of this. But while this is true of the leaders there is still need of a change of heart on the part of the people generally. Men to-day do not give evidence of the same freedom from the dominance of political authority that they do from that of ecclesiastical authority. I think we may say that it is one of the functions of the Canadian Club to assist men to take larger views, and to enable them to think not from the narrow standpoint of party or of province, but to think nationally, shall I say, imperially. Perhaps this is enough upon this point for the present. I may return to it in a moment or two.

Let us keep in mind, however, that while we are escaping from the dominance of outward authority, there is another authority from which we cannot, from which we ought not to escape, I mean the authority of our own inner reason and the demands of righteousness within our hearts. Kant said there were two things filled him with awe—the starry heavens above him and the moral law within his soul. To escape the dominance of this moral law which makes us men, would be to reverse the evolutionary process and go back to the savage and the animal from which we sprang. It is in this inner authority that the imperatives of citizenship are rooted and from which they draw their strength.

In the first place the imperatives of citizenship demand that political rights shall be occupied by all those who possess the same. Rights when they are established at once become duties, and duty must be performed. Abraham Lincoln, that great man, the hundredth anniversary of whose birth we have so recently celebrated, defined democracy as "the government of the people, by the people, for the people." The most important element in the arch made by this triad is the central one—it is the keystone in the arch of democracy. Other forms of government are of the people, and mostly for the people; but democratic government is by the people.

It is the people who govern themselves, and they must take the matter of government seriously. Unoccupied political rights imply political indifference, and upon indifference on the part of the people it is impossible to establish a democratic form of government. Let me press this matter further. Mr. John Morley, in his essay on Compromise, has pointed out the very evident fact that progress is not automatic. In these days when all our thinking is done upon the evolutionary framework, we are in danger of coming to the conclusion that evolution is a force rather than a law, and that there is a sort of 'vis-a-tergo' that makes the world go forward without any action on the part of ourselves. We have need to remember that social

energy is itself a part of the evolutionary process in society, and that the world grows better, "because people wish that it should, and take the steps to make it better . . . Social energy can never be superseded by evolution or anything else."

Such considerations as these make imperative the occupation of political rights by all those who possess them. No doubt this means inconvenience, personal effort, and sometimes much personal courage. A man may be called on to vote against a party with which he has stood all his lifetime, because principle in him is stronger than party. But no considerations of sentiment, or of safety from criticism or personal comfort should deter a man from going to the polls when his presence is required there, and thus obeying the imperative of citizenship.

In the second place, the imperatives of citizenship demand that political purity shall be kept inviolate. It has been said with truth that bribery is to politics what forgery is to business, and it should meet with like severe punishment. It is a matter for satisfaction that the public conscience is becoming educated with reference to this matter. The chief political leaders recognize the importance of keeping their hands clean from corruption. But the popular conscience will bear a little boosting yet. Bribery is considered by many, if not a legitimate, at any rate a very practical method of winning elections. Politicians who would not under any circumstances offer a direct bribe will make promises to communities which they may not be able to keep.

Here again the assault is upon the keystone of the arch of democracy, for bribery seeks to substitute the desires of the few for the will of the many, and to purchase with money or preferment what should be acquired only by the free choice of the people. The man who sells his vote for money comes under social contempt, but it is doubtful whether he is as great a sinner as the man or party who offers to purchase it. is the briber who works the temptation, and who gets the result, and upon him should fall the greater condemnation. Every self-respecting individual or community should resent every attempt to purchase political support by offers of money or local improvements. Such efforts are subversive to the principles of democracy.

The third imperative of citizenship may be summed up in the principle of loyalty. Let me make it clear what I mean. Professor Royce has lately published a book called "The Philosophy of Loyalty." In this book he sets forth loyalty as the supreme principle of conduct. By loyalty he means, "the willing and practical and thorough-going devotion of a person to a cause." The duty of the citizen to be loyal has long been understood, but loyalty has implications which we are in danger of overlooking, and which the imperatives of citizenship demand that we should consider.

To be continued next week

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SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

The Farmer's Congress at Cheyenne.

Alberta's delegate describes the proceedings
at this notable gathering.

The Farmers' Congress which met in Cheyenne, Wyoming, the 23, 24 and 25th of Feb. has grown in three years from a few delegates representing a limited number of the Western Central States of the United States of America, to a world-wide affair. We visited the second annual meeting of the Congress held last year at Salt Lake City, Utah, which was in interest and number of delegates an amazing growth over the first meeting held in Denver, Colorado, the year before. But only representatives from the most of the western states were there. The late Congress has shown a greater gain in interest. Besides nearly every State in the Union being represented, there were delegates from Brazil, Russia, Mexico, Canada and New Zealand and Australia and Transvaal delegates encircled the globe to get there. Senator McCall of Australia starting in one direction and Dr. McDonald of the Transvaal going the opposite around the world and meeting in Cheyenne to attend this Congress held for the purpose of studying both practical and scientific agriculture. There were also greetings and papers from several other countries.

The people of Wyoming showed that they were capable of grasping the greatness of the occasion, especially the city of Cheyenne. The citizens certainly did all in their power to make it pleasant for the visitors during their stay in the city, and it was freely admitted by both delegates and visitors that Cheyenne people would be hard to beat as entertainers.

If it had not been for a very severe storm during the beginning of the convention the city's accommodation would have been much more heavily taxed. There was a dry farm or semi-arid exhibit which means products raised in a country having an average precipitation of twenty inches or less, held in connection and open to the world. It will no doubt be of interest to Albertans to know that our Alberta red scored another victory by taking first place in this competition, admitted by all as far as quality is concerned, the hardest that could be found any where to beat. The general verdict seems to be that few if any meetings of agricultural interests have been of more importance than the results of this gathering will prove it to be. Accounts of what could be accomplished by the conservation of soil moisture, and how to do it proved very interesting, which methods will be discussed from time to time through the Homestead. The system is very interesting as well as beneficial to a large part of Alberta's agriculturists. In most part it just consists of good farming and the proper rotation of crops. It is known to be needed in parts where it was supposed to be unnecessary, proving a good and simple solution to many of the farmers' difficulties.

Continued on page 4

Provincial Constituencies of Alberta



The Farmer's Convention at Cheyenne.

Continued from page 3

The eyes of the semi-arid countries of the world are looking to this organization for information and are anxiously investigating its proceedings. Great drouths have been withstood by this system of farming. Parties made statements that they had produced good crops on as low as three inches of rainfall by aid of conserved moisture from previous years where their soil was suitable. The deep cultivation and firming of the soil prepared it to absorb more water and more rapidly as well as to better retain it after it has percolated into it. There remains no doubt in our mind that by farming in this way we can produce a better and harder quality of wheat, as well as resulting in earlier ripening of all kinds of crops. The benefits of which are obvious in the north west. While at the same time overcoming the weed pest to a greater extent than any other means of farming.

The Dominion and the Alberta Government are to be commended for the interest shown in the advancement of agricultural interests in numerous ways. They were represented by duly appointed delegates at this meeting at Cheyenne. There was present for the Dominion Mr. W. H. Fairfield of the Lethbridge Experimental Farm. There was appointed for the Alberta Government Mr. Thos Woolford of Cardston and Mr. D. W. Warner of Edmonton. Mr. Woolford not being able to attend, which fact we very much regretted, the burden of reporting to the Alberta Government will fall on myself alone, which I will do as soon as convenient to do so for I suppose that later on that report will become public property. Among other delegates attending was Mr. Dape of the C.P.R. land department and Mr. Forceland, Dominion farm immigration staff. There was mention made at the different sessions that Canada was a close and lively competitor of U.S. for the immigration from the old countries. But nevertheless there was plenty of evidence of satisfaction in having her delegates present and take part in the proceedings.

Death of Mrs. Barker

The many friends throughout the Province of Mr. E. N. Barker of Cardston, who recently accepted the post of associate editor of the Homestead and who will shortly remove to Edmonton to take up his duties, will keenly sympathise with him on learning of the death of his wife, which took place in New York on March 10, after an illness of some months. Mrs. Barker was an exceptional woman in a large variety of ways and made a deep impression upon all who came to know her. She had a mind of rare brightness, was a delightful companion and an ideal wife and helpmate. She married Mr. Barker twenty-seven years ago. The funeral took place on Friday last, the body being laid to rest in the cemetery at New Windsor on the banks of the Hudson river, her old home, besides that of her father and mother and her only child.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE RED DEER UNION AND
MR. WHITESIDES.

Editor Alberta Homestead.

Sir,—I have been very much pained on reading an article in last week's Homestead under the heading of "Censure of Mr. Whitesides." I do not know what the article alluded to in the Red Deer News contained; but if it has been read aright it must have been very misleading, because as I presided at that meeting I can say that there was no attempt on the part of anyone to censure Mr. Whiteside. It was stated that our transportation committee had met the C. P. R. officials and had been able to adjust several matters without going before the Railway Commission, and that the C. P. R. officials had stated that if Mr. Whitesides had adopted the same course they believed some of the grievances of the stock growers could have been removed in the same way. In meetings such as ours it is somewhat hard at all times to guard against mistakes; but we should not be held accountable for the mistakes in the press reports or for the way some people choose to read these reports.

Yours truly,
James Bower.

Here is a tale which shows the capacities of the German language:

A Dresden paper states that among the Hottentots (Hottentoten) the kangaroos (Beutelratte) are found in great numbers. Many wander free; others are taken by hunters and put into cages (Kotter), provided with covers (Lattengitter) to keep out the rain. These cages are called in German Lattengitter wetterkotter, and the kangaroo after his imprisonment takes the name of Latten gitter wetter kotterbeutelratte. One day an assassin (Attentäter) was arrested who had killed a Hottentot woman (Hottentotenmutter), the mother of two stupid and stuttering children (in German, Strattertraottel). This woman is entitled Hottentotenstrattretrottelmutter, and her assassin takes the name of Hottentotenstrattretrottelmutterattentäter. The murderer was confined in a kangaroos' cage (Beutelrattenlattengitterwetterkotter), whence a few days later he escaped, but, unfortunately, was recaptured by a Hottentot.

"I have captured the attentatre," said he.

"Which one?" replied the Mayor, "we have several."

"The attentäterlattengitterwetterkotterkiotterjbeutelratte."

"Which attentäter are you talking about?"

"About the Hottentottenstrattretrottelmutterattentäter."

"Then why don't you say at once the Hottentotenstrattretrotteltmutterattentäterlattengitterwetterkotterbeutelratte?"

The Hottentot fled in dismay.—T.P.' Weekly.

Old Basing Farm

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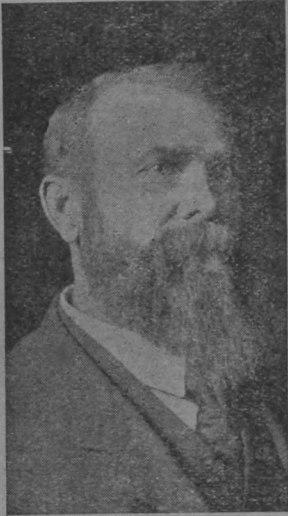
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From a Farmer's View-Point

B Y D. W. W A R N E R

GIVE A PRIZE ON STEERS.

We noticed last year that the young steers were left of the prize list at the Edmonton fair, and the stock men that are raising beef steers should see to it that they are put on this year's list, which is being made at present. For there is where the most money is in beef cattle, and a good steer calf, a yearling steer or a two-year old has a right to a prize if he is worthy of it as an older one that is ready for the block. It shows too what can be accomplished by using a good pure bred bull. It interests the neighbor of the man who gets good prizes upon his young steers, setting the pace in a way. We are all living in hope of some day in the near future getting better prices for better beef.

We need to encourage the breeders of pure bred beef and general purpose cattle. For the prospects are none to bright for them as it is at present in this country. It does not look so very much, but it is a step in the right direction and let us see that it is taken for our next fair. As it has been heretofore, the beef steers have all been out of the farmers' hands or practically so before the fair comes off, and if any prizes were won on fat ones the butchers have been getting them.

HOW TO DEHORN THE CALVES.

The horns are a thing of the past with the progressive and up-to-date farmer. He knows he can not afford to have them on his cattle. It is very little work to get rid of them if done when the calf is small and it is much easier in every way to dehorn a calf than a grown animal. All that is needed to kill the horns on a calf is a fairly large mouthed bottle, a common shoe blacking bottle is as good as any, a rubber cork to be obtained at any drug store to fit it, of good length. Cut creases in the cork both ways, fairly deep and not too slanting in the end that goes in the bottle. By so doing it will hold the dehorning fluid and do a better job of rubbing the young horn or button as it is called generally. Now you are ready for your dehorning material. All you need is a little concentrated lye, put it in the bottle and add just enough water to reduce it to a thick liquid, about as thick as ordinary mucilage. Take a pair of shears and clip the hair off the little buttons then with the cork

rub the fluid on, and rub until it looks spongy and raw. The work should be done some time before the calf is three weeks old, the first week is better and easier than the third. Use this stuff with care, for if too much is put on and allowed to run down over the head it burns like fire, making a very bad sore and if it gets in the eye it is liable to destroy the sight. A little at a time and rub well in is the way to use it. Enough of this lye liquid to dehorn a hundred calves will not cost over five cents, and is just as easy to use and will do the work just as well as the dehorning fluid for which I used to pay a dollar for a four ounce bottle.

THE GENERAL PURPOSE HORSE.

The 1908 Edmonton Summer Fair prize list describes the general purpose horse as suitable for the saddle, wagon, buggy or plow. That such a horse can be produced there can be no doubt. That stamp of horse is the favorite of nine out of ten farmers. They are ready for any thing, and that is the kind of horse the farmer needs. We want to ride horseback sometimes, especially the boys on the farm, and they want a horse that is an improvement over going on foot. We want to drive a buggy some times and surely one that is well built, smooth bodied, clean legged, clean headed, and a fair traveller would be a pleasant kind of horse to drive. Such a one touches the pride of a farm boy up a little and I know the old men are not ashamed of that sort themselves. When we want to draw a load the animal that weighs from 1100 to 1300 pounds is of the right breeding, will have the build, energy and brain to know how to put his strength to the best of use and be able to give more valuable service even at drawing a load than many larger horses that are not capable of doing more than just a lubber lift. The general purpose horse in the soft Alberta soil is the chap that can stand the long days in putting in the crop, for it is the new plowed and soft ground that takes the grit and spunk to stand a spring's work and rush as we have it in this country. When you have a general purpose horse of the right breeding you have a horse that will do all these things with a fair amount of ease. But that stamp of horse cannot be obtained by chance,

by crossing the draft horse with the cayuse, or by taking the runts of the different draft breeds. No, the general purpose horse is not a sport from any breed he can be and must be in order to have a true general purpose horse, bred for that purpose alone. Just as much so as the draft horse will have to be bred for a draft horse.

The stunted and runty draft horses have no more right to be called general purpose horses than the offshoots of the general purpose running to the small side have to be called roadsters. While they may do fairly good service at the roading they are not what they have a right to be from the standpoint of breeding and are out of their place when they get there. They should not be allowed to misplace the regular roadster breeds through any fault of the judges in not knowing how to distinguish between breeds. I have seen cases in contests of general purpose classes where a small draft horse that was not big enough to get into the class he was bred for was allowed by the biased feeling or lack of understanding on the part of the judge to take first place over a well bred good general purpose animal, and where the management of the different associations have been at fault, has been in not being strict enough in placing the different classes and making exhibitors show in the class they belong in.

This general purpose class has been burdened with everything that could not stand a show of winning with their own particular breed where they should be compelled to stay. Thus being allowed to muddle and befuddle people until they do not know what a general horse is, and that to get a good one for that purpose we must breed for them as for any other class in the horse family.

"No," snapped the sharp-faced woman at the door. "I ain't got no food for you, an' I ain't got no old clo'es. Now, git!"

"Madame," replied the man, "I could repay you well. Give me a square meal and I'll give you a few lessons in English."

That the Montreal police are the limit was proven to a certainty the other night when burglars broke into and cleaned up one of the city police stations.

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There was a city where the air
Was never fouled because a few
Did that for gain which none would
dare
For any other thing to do.
And in that city, bright and rich,
There were no hovels where for
greed
Men planted hatred and in which
The law permitted plagues to
breed
No clouds of deadly dust were blown
Along the splendid thoroughfares,
And none for profits of their own
Might add to other people's cares.
The faces of the men were glad,
The women's beauty gave delight,
And no one there was poorly clad,
And money made no wrong thing
right.
And thus all cities may be when
No man may have respect or trust
Who gains through wronging other
men,
Where laws are kept and weapons
rust.

—Chicago Record-Herald.

ALBERTA'S DUTY TO ITS CHILDREN.

I think no one can have done journalistic work for any length of time without being struck by one thing, the way in which, starting from one central idea, as say the subject of "children" for instance, one is led to follow into dozens of side issues that affect, and very seriously affect, the subject in hand.

When I first went to Shacktown, I went primarily from curiosity. Perhaps in a remote way I was anxious to see what stuff our young immigrants were made of. And then I met "the boy," a little lad that aroused the particular interest. You know how that is; out of a sea of faces, a something that makes a direct appeal to your heart. "Johnny," I shall call him so, had in his own little way, a very sad history. Sad, mark you, not criminal. But out from Johnny radiated a thousand trains of thought. The boy has "the tubercles and rickets." Why? History of the case, three aunts and two uncles dead from consumption, also his maternal grandmother. Why then did his mother marry at all? What causes predisposed to demand such a tribute of lives from the one family? Over-crowding, carelessness, neglect, "Johnny," handicapped, and his little life not worth a toss of dice as a consequence.

And thinking first of all of this dear boy, I began to look on all the other children with a less professional, and a more human eye. Most of them were bonny, bright. Given the right chances they might be made anything.

Then I came back to my Poet's words you see, and from that to wondering how an eye could be kept on them to see that their health was properly looked to and when any disease did break out that it should be caught in its incipient stage. The only way to reach this it seemed to me was by medical inspection in the schools and thinking of physically healthy conditions again suggested moral ones and so I came to Mr. Chadwick.

Almost here I am tempted to stop, the magnitude of the subject is so appalling. So far as the medical inspection is concerned, quite frankly, I am ill prepared to speak.

I only know that at present those of us who have the means to see to it that sanitary conditions obtain at home, are every day compelled to subject our children to contact with others who may be living in quite shockingly unhealthy surroundings, and who are sent to school while actually suffering from contagious diseases.

Leaving our own children out of the question, isn't it the plain duty of the community in common humanity, and for our own best interests to see to it, that little children who have no one to stand up for them and shelter them, are protected by the law from having TO GO to their classes when they should be in bed being well looked after?

The land is crying aloud for people to come in and take it up, but if instead of healthy stock we are importing a criminal and diseased class, are we not better a scattered, small nation at least healthy, and morally sound?

The very fact that foreigners from many lands where various horrible diseases flourish, form so large a portion of the population, is in itself reason sufficient that in Alberta we need particularly some system whereby an adequate tally is kept on the general child health of our cities and communities. Many children we know attend school who are positively ill, thus endangering their own and their companion's lives.

Many children are anaemic, deformed, have bad vision, can't hear properly, have communicable eye and skin diseases. In other instances their nervous system is out of kilter.

Every day, uninvitingly these little unfortunates are punished, one because she is too stupid TO LISTEN to what is told her, when the truth of it is she CAN'T HEAR, another of weak mentality because she can't grasp the difference between "mine and thine."

During the past few weeks, starting in the schools, a perfect epidemic of mumps has ravaged the city, causing untold inconvenience and discomfort. Caught, in time, the whole epidemic might have been confined to a few cases. It is high time some action was taken.

At the Teachers' Convention held here last Fall, Mr. Duggan of Vancouver, addressed the convention on the absolute need of medical inspection in the schools and spoke strongly in favor of the appointment of a woman-doctor. In Vancouver the most satisfactory results had followed the adoption of this course.

As I said before I am only just touching on this subject, so important and far-reaching a one. Alberta has done her duty nobly by her public schools and institutions, surely she will not fail in this particular.

In a new country such as Western Canada, it is perhaps not surprising that in the endeavor "to get rich quick" which seems to be the main idea of most of the people, the subject that is most frequently talked of among them, the children should catch some of the same spirit, and catching that it should lead them into devious paths to attain their object. Were we a cramped up community, old in sin, and dexterous from long practice, this same haste to be rich in a day would undoubtedly bring about very serious con-

sequences. As it is, I say it without fear of contradiction, it is making our boys unusually smart and thoughtful of material advantages beyond their years. I shouldn't like to say that it is a good thing from any point of view. You can force fruit, flowers and many things, but invariably the process brings about speedy degeneration after a certain maturity. Children are human plants, flowers, that lose their BLOOM or first INNOCENT freshness early, in this wide-awake country.

Among the children of the well-to-do this so-called smartness very often develops into glibness of tongue, into prevaricating, "picking" father's pockets, appropriating trifles without a "by your leave." Such cases are shockingly frequent and are particularly hard to deal with. Parents screen their offspring, or laugh the matter off as a bit of childish cleverness. The next time the boy "lifts" little things in his play-mate's homes. It is an easy step to pilfering from stores, and still later on to "doctoring" accounts or "skipping out."

Frequently the prominence of a boy's family saves his name. It is a pity that it should be so.

On the other hand in less pretentious homes and among the very poor the temptation to acquire rapidly, to steal, if so be it makes one "rich quick," is even greater. Because they have no influence to save them, children from such homes are usually caught early and summarily handed over to justice. In Alberta it is the best thing that could possibly happen to them, for here it means that they will inevitably come in touch with the Superintendent of Neglected Children and be placed in the way of the best moral influences.

All neglected children do not hail from the homes of the poor. The most neglected children I know in Edmonton to-day call the most well-to-do parents fathers and mothers. Because she is obliged to leave them to earn her daily bread, a poor woman is sometimes obliged to be neglectful. In her absence her children run wild and develop criminal traits. But a woman who can afford to be a watchful, loving mother and isn't, because she either lacks the heart or interest, is an unnatural creature, a very cumberr of the earth, whose children are very often a curse to the community. Not only are they corrupt themselves, but they defile and seduce all with whom they come in contact. There are boys at large to-day on our streets whose place is under the care of the Superintendent of Neglected Children; there are others, who, because their parents have screened them, would be safer behind prison bars; not only are they criminals in the making, they are an actual menace to the city.

The "probation system," as in force in Alberta, is the result of the accumulated wisdom of the best governed cities on the American continent. It requires that all juvenile cases be reported and a chance given to recommend their being allowed out on probation. And what is "probation" you ask. Here is Mr. Chadwick's definition:

"Probation is a system of correction designed to improve the character of an offender by giving him his liberty under friendly and coercive oversight, as a substitute for punishment. This is done by the Judge. At his discretion he would not pronounce sentence after a person has been found guilty, but might suspend the execution of it and release him under a conditional agreement of good behaviour. In the case of a juvenile the Judge might appoint a probation officer, who shall instruct the probationer as to the mode of life he must agree to adopt. The probation officer shall personally visit the probationer at unstated periods, and require return visits. By introducing the probationer to

helpful friends, and by a friendly oversight of the probationer's recreations and amusements, this officer exerts a helpful influence on the boy entrusted to his care. Reports are required weekly. These reports the probation officer must fill out and send to the Superintendent."

These reports or cards require the parent or guardian to fill in the child's conduct for every day in the week, whether fair, good or bad, the hour of retiring each night, and also provide a space for any remarks.

When an offender who has been released on probation commits crime again, even though it might not be the same crime, he is brought back to court by the probation officer and again released with a reprimand, or he is sentenced to serve out imprisonment under the original conviction.

The immense advantages of the system when properly administered are self-evident:

(1) Correction of children without depriving them of their liberty, without placing upon them the stigma of imprisonment or bringing scandal to them:

(2) The saving of first offenders from falling into habitual law-breaking.

(3) The saving to society; the restoration to normal surroundings and to usefulness, of boys and girls, who will, some day, be men and women who, but for the probation system, might have been warped and twisted by the prison or institutional life.

The system has been in force in Alberta for nearly a year and already untold good has resulted. Of course the selection of the right man has meant everything. It will be the same with reference to the medical school inspector. A careless appointment, and the thing might as well be left alone.

As yet, of course, the juvenile criminal is a comparatively small problem, among the baby Province's myriad ones, but a far-sighted Government has realized that a step in time saves nine, quite as truly as the old adage with reference to the stitch, and it is seeing to it that when the problem does present itself we will have our machinery well in hand to cope with it.

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Experiments in Cross Breeding

Some general principles called attention
to by Mr. Barker

It is often lost sight of by many who try cross breeding that those gone on before arrived at many present day results by cross breeding but the best results have usually been obtained by those who started with a definite object in view and the results they obtained have been turned over to us as completed or comparatively completed breeds. When we start to cross breed, especially if this is done in a haphazard fashion, we may start on the down grade to come to the place that the expert breeder started from.

It matters not whether we wish to improve our draft horses, our milk cows, our laying hens or our working sheep dog, the system is the same. When trying to improve the show points of any bird or beast we have to work along the same lines to attain the best results, which are obtained by selection. There are no two objects animate or inanimate in nature exactly alike and the tendency of our live stock is to vary, especially our chickens, so to overcome or regulate this variation is the main effort of the successful breeder, retaining at the same time in its most complete form the good points we are trying to fix.

The very fact of using a male and a female to produce offspring means variation, and to mitigate this variation, or prevent it doing harm to the strain, the skillful breeder uses his utmost endeavors, knowing that the tendency to revert to long lost characteristics is strong in most of our modern varieties of poultry as well as in most breeds of animals. Many mistakes in breeding come from the fact that inexperienced breeders look upon the stock they are working with as fixed types whereas there is a great want of fixity of type in most of our domestic breeds, which the mere fact of their being domesticated intensifies. By this we mean that a wild tendency has not much species to vary until domesticated, and, when thoroughly domesticated, will break and vary more freely.

REASON FOR SEXES

Prof. Bailey says: "The only reason for the existence of sex seems to be the need for a constant rejuvenation and modification of the offspring by uniting the features of two individuals into one." Seeing that we have to use two sexes to produce offspring in birds and beasts, and that the union of sexes tends to variation, in fact causes variation in a great or less degree, it follows that when using violent crosses in a haphazard fashion, to try and attain uncertain results, we may be using, often without knowing it, very violent mediums of variation. Thus we may hazard the opinion that for the average breeder's experiments the tendencies to vary in most so called pure breeds are sufficiently acute, and, if he can make a success of controlling adverse tendencies and improving his stock by intensifying the good

traits, he will have acquired experience that might enable him to cross out for some superior result. But for the average amateur or beginner, or even for the only partially educated breeder, to take up cross breeding is practical destruction for the breed or breeds he experiments with.

It has been noted that in the union of two parents the image of the parent bred is imprinted more often upon the offspring in the most intensive form. Why? Because the characteristics desired to be perpetuated have been longer imprinted upon the organism of the pure bred and this purity of blood dominates the less purely bred form, but it should never be forgotten that though the result of the first cross may, apparently, be a success, the type has been broken into, the latent tendency to vary has been intensified, the long continuance of pure blood in the one parent has been mixed with half the blood of another variety, and then, when bred to another parent, the offspring is being submitted to another tendency to vary even if the parent chosen is another pure bred of the variety it is most desired to copy.

When starting to cross breed it should be firmly fixed in the mind what it is the breeder is trying to acquire. Is it to be a pure prolific laying hen? Is it to be a better meat fowl or a heavier milking cow? For the one feature has to be always present in the mind's eye of the breeder who must never deviate a hair's breadth from his object with a view to doing any guessing, and it must be kept in the mind that to breed any definite strain with the desired quality imprinted firmly, so as to cause no question of the result, that the successful result may take half a century or more to accomplish. Results acquired by our great breeders, when the good work has been carried on for a century, may be lost in the one bad out-cross and the best type may revert in one stroke to all the bad qualities it has taken a century to get rid of. So that it should be apparent to the novice that he may be playing with dynamite, the strict nature of which no man knows, when dabbling in sudden outcrosses not knowing the antecedents of the stock he is using to outcross with.

The success of most of our best breeders may be summed up in the fact that they were intimately acquainted with the ingredients they put together, and they are perfectly aware that lemon juice and water makes lemonade with the addition of some sugar, but that whisky and hot water make whisky toddy. The one will not make the other and the mixture is not agreeable to most tastes. Thus is stock breeding and the best animals or birds are bred from pure or nearly pure parents on both sides. When using pure parents we start where the other fellow left off, when using outcrosses we start where the other fellow began and lose all the time that he lost, i.e., for the average man in this short life it is better to accept results than try to better what may have been very well done for us. There is nothing so uncertain in this uncertain life as cross-breeding.

Cross breeding to be successful can, usually, only be carried on by those who have acquired considerable experience and can mix their ingredients with science and skill. We may also hazard the opinion that too many lose sight of the importance of the dam in breeding or trying to breed high class stock and we often see dams that breed excellent material from different sires and perhaps better than those sires. With some it is considered sufficient to choose a great sire or a pure bred sire, expecting that when he is bred to any kind of a dam the result will be a vast improvement. In contradistinction to this we find the owner of a great sire who has become wise to the game refusing to mate his first class sire with inferior dams, for the offspring may not be a credit to the sire and often is not then the blame is placed upon the sire where too much was expected of him. We venture to say that to start trying to breed first class stock from inferior dams will waste a great deal of time that could be more profitably employed. Grading up by successive crosses may take years to bring out a result. It has been done but why take the trouble when there is so much stock to work upon? The progeny from one good dam may be worth a car-

load of second raters and it costs no more to feed one good laying hen that lays 200 eggs a year than one that lays 25 eggs, as many do, and it costs much less to feed one high class hen than eight or nine poor ones.

The best of its kind will always sell for a high price no matter where it is found and it is only the best that pay to ship long distances, especially as freights are in Canada.

History has a way of inverting as well as repeating itself. You remember that old-time Sunday School favorite that delighted the hearts of Tom Sawyer and many of his kin, which tells how little David went out and by a simple twist of the wrist knocked the daylight out of Goliath. Out in Stony Plain the electors are at present enjoying the treat of a revised version of the contest. David and Goliath are at it hammer in tongues, but it's a case of "Big John" McKinley getting after "Little John" McPherson. But David, though he in this case, is on the defensive, will probably look after himself about as well as he did in the days of old.

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THE PLACE-NAMES OF ALBERTA

What's in a name? asked the immortal bard of Avon. His argument regarding the rose incognito may be all right, but most people attach considerable importance nevertheless to the manner in which they themselves, and those persons and places that they are interested in, are designated. Mr. Robinson doesn't want to be called Mr. Robertson, or Mr. Wood Mr. Woods, and vice versa. In the first instance it is apt to cause confusion. Moreover the owner of a cognomen likes to think that he has sufficient personality, and his family sufficient standing, to impress it on people's memory. In the same way local pride stands out for the proper recognition of the names of different places. It frequently happens, however, that authorities disagree as to the correct spelling and pronunciation of these, while in other cases rival claims to a name add to the general uncertainty and disagreeableness.

In view of these circumstances the Government at Ottawa not long ago established what it called a geographic board, the duty of which is to adjust these disputes. Alberta has no representation on this body, but this province receives a good deal of attention in annual reports. This paper called attention to some of the features of that issued for 1907, and pointed out how in one respect at least it added to rather than lessened the prevalent confusion. It decreed that Fort Vermilion on the Peace river should henceforth be called plain Vermilion. How was anyone to distinguish it from Vermilion on the C.N.R.? we asked. The board evidently took note of the objection, for this year's report over-rules the previous decision and Fort Vermilion stands. But this is not sufficient. In the days to come, the two places will be sure to be mistaken for one another. The board had better distinguish them more clearly. The tendency of human nature is always to short cuts, and how many people will ordinarily say, "Fort Vermilion." To all the people round about it is bound to be plain Vermilion.

This tendency is illustrated clearly by another ruling. The people of the capital of Alberta will be relieved to hear that, according to the geographical board's decision, their city is henceforth to be known as Edmonton, not as Fort Edmonton. Will not the "Fort" in "Fort Vermilion" be dropped just as surely as it was in the case of "Fort Edmonton."

To the person who takes an interest in these matters (and who doesn't?), and who knows something of the history of this part of the Dominion, the report is a most readable document. Down in the extreme southwest of the province, for instance, there is a most beautiful lake and river country, which under the Government's railway program will soon be brought into touch with civilization. To the people of the vicinity the river has always been the Kootenai. It is true that the name confuses it

with the more widely known stream, the Kootenay, in British Columbia, but such is the local pride to which we have referred that these Southern Albertans refused to yield. Now the geographic board says that they must, and that the lake and river must go by the name of Waterton.

West of Edmonton is a body of water which has been known as Lobstick Lake. This is a name, it happens, which has been appropriated in two other parts of the Dominion. It is used to designate part of the Lake of the Woods, and a lake in Keewatin district. The geographic board in this case has not temporized. It awards the name to the Lake of the Woods people, and says that hereafter the Alberta Lobstick must give way to the very undignified appellation of Chip Lake. On the other hand the Keewatin claimant is designated Kisseynew. As between Alberta and Keewatin it's a toss-up which has the greater cause to object.

An Albertan name which has caused the person who attempts to write it considerable difficulty is adjudged to be Chipewyan, not Chippawyan nor Chippewyan. It should occupy a big place in the school spelling matches of the future.

Those who have listened to the eloquence of Mr. John T. Moore will agree that there can be only one Red Deer. So it is quite right that all claims of Lac La Biche to the name of the town on the C. and E. should be discouraged by the board.

For the relief of those who set type, doubtless, Stony Plain becomes Stonyplain and Spruce Grove Sprucegrove.

As an evidence that politics is not mixed up with the report it should be mentioned that the claim of the leader of the Conservative party in Alberta to have the peak northwest of Mount Bourgeon called after him is sustained, and that Mount Brett will thus have a permanent place in Canadian geographies. So what does the genial Doctor care how the vote turns out in Cochrane on March 22? He will be remembered after many scores of provincial legislatures have passed into oblivion.

THE NERVOUS CHILD.

He harried the household cat,
He worried and whipped the dog,
He sat on his auntie's hat
He caught and he killed a frog,
He lamed with a sizable stone
The most of his uncle's chickens,
He broke the bed, and it may be said
With truth, that he raised the dickens—
Till grandmother raised her eyes,
she did,
And murmured, "The Lord preserve us!"
But mother remarked as she kissed the kid:
"The poor little dear is nervous."
He fidgeted, sulked, and fussed—
So dainty about his meat,
He screamed that his mother must
Have something a fellow could eat,
He answered his auntie back,
He snapped at his uncle, too.
He tortured and teased and did as he pleased
And not what they wished he'd do,
Till grandmother raised her eyes,
she did,
And murmured, "The Lord preserve us!"
But mother remarked as she kissed the kid:
"The poor little dear is nervous."

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FLOR FINA: A DELICATE HINT

"The Colonel (to friend's gardener, who has just given him a buttonhole): "I always think, John, that your flowers smell sweeter than any."

John: "So do your weeds, Sir?"

The Colonel: "Ah, will you try one, John?"

John: Well, thank you, Sir, I don't mind if I do. Er—I could send you up a box full of them flowers, if you'd like to have 'em"
—Punch.

Among the U.F.A. Unions

EDWELL.

The first meeting after organization was held in the schoolhouse on Saturday, March 6. President H. A. Crocker in the chair. There was a large attendance and 12 new members were admitted.

A letter was read from the Penhold Union inviting the members to co-operate with them in procuring binder twine. After considerable discussion it was decided to send a delegate to confer with Penhold at their next meeting. Mr. J. T. Walton was appointed delegate.

The secretary was instructed to obtain quotations for twine to be laid before next meeting.

A discussion took place on the state of the markets and the price of baled hay was not considered satisfactory.

Fall wheat was reported to be in good shape in the district.

It was decided to send an order for flour to Lacombe and several members availed themselves of the proposal.

After a general discussion the meeting adjourned until Friday, March 26, at 8 p.m. Members and prospective members please note.

Fred Jas. Powell, Sec.-Treas.

CROSSFIELD.

Mr. R. C. Owens, of Independence, Alta., organizer for the United Farmers of Alberta, was responsible for the recent organization of a union at Crossfield.

Mr. J. S. Davie occupied the chair at the meeting and Mr. M. L. Boyle acted as secretary. The meeting was an enthusiastic one, and after listening to Mr. Owens' address a branch was formed with over 20 members to start with.

The officers elected were: President, M. L. Boyle; vice-president, G. W. Boyce; sec.-treas., D. A. McCrinon.

WAVY LAKE.

During the winter fortnightly meetings have been regularly held, with a good attendance at all. The membership is slowly but steadily growing, and much interest is being taken in the meetings and work of the Union.

The series of debates and addresses on agricultural topics, which have been the chief feature of the meetings, will be varied at the next meeting, January 20th, at 2 p.m., by a programme consisting of music, recitations and addresses, to be followed by a supper. The wives and families of members are invited and expected in force.

The Union has made satisfactory arrangements for a supply of formalin to be used in treating seed grain.

The members of the Union greatly appreciate the work of the directors and general secretary of the Association in keeping them in touch with current events of interest, through the medium of regular circular letters, and are also much interested in the series of articles from the pen of Mr. Warner, now appearing in the Homestead.

M. R. Lyster, secretary.

STRATHMORE.

A meeting was held in the Strathmore schoolhouse recently to organize a farmers' union under the constitution and bylaws of the United Farmers Union, about sixty farmers being present. Mr. Skeen, of the Demonstration Farm, occupied the chair and called upon Mr. W. J. Tregillus, of Calgary, to address the gathering. In an interesting talk he advanced many excellent reasons why a branch of the United Farmers' Union should be organized by the farmers of Strathmore and vicinity. He also spoke at some length on the subjects of the cultivation of soil, the selection of seeds, machinery, husbandry, farming as a science, and the benefits derived from a Farmers' Union from a social point of view as well as the business side. The speaker hoped Strathmore farmers would form a union wherein it will be a pleasure to hold meetings of goodfellowship to discuss all matters of personal interest in connection with their crops and produce and best means of disposing of the same, in order that Alberta in the near future will become the greatest farming province in the Dominion.

A motion was then put extending the sincere thanks of the meeting to Mr. Tregillus, which was responded to most heartily by all present.

Business was then proceeded with to organize and the officers elected for the year were: President, J. L. Skeen; vice president, F. W. Schettler; secretary, A. L. Minto; treasurer, F. McElhoes.

OLDS.

One of the most pleasing and popular entertainments ever given in this place occurred Wednesday Mar. 3rd at McKercher's hall, the occasion being a box social by the Olds Union of the U.F.A. Stalwart farmers, their sons their daughters, their prospective sons-in-law and daughters-in-law were seen flocking in up to 8.30 o'clock when order was rapped. Chairman McDonald in a few words explained the motives of the order, more especially emphasizing the terminal proposition at Vancouver, a scheme which the writer of these lines thinks the most important for Alberta since the first Japanese order for 15,000 tons of Canadian flour. The programme was not strictly musical, literary or oratorical, but exceedingly interesting. Four characters of the Olds orchestra and three pieces of Mortz quadrille band from their farms gave melodious music and were applauded to the finish. Then there were the following numbers: Glee Hall, the gold medal boy, selection; Mr. and Mrs. Lamont, solo and accompaniment; H. B. Adshead and daughter, music; H.B.'s impromptu talk upon the early days here filled in the time until the climax was reached in the form of a song by the president, George Rands, and a violin solo by our farmer friend, Frank Henderson. Both were encored to the echo. Many of the audience had never heard Frank before and went away wondering how such strains

could be drawn from that famous and powerful instrument, the "fiddle." At about 11 o'clock one might say it was a somewhat "mixed crowd" if he happened to hazard a glance over the \$34 of opened boxes. R. L. Craig cried the refreshments, but his "great hit" of the solo, "The Man behind the plow," somewhat incapacitated him for real good hits at auctioneering.

A DRUGLESS CURE.

"William, dear," feebly called the invalid wife, who was supposed to be nearing the end of her earthly career.

"Yes, darling," answered the sorrowing husband. "What is it?"

"When I am gone," said she, "I feel that for the sake of the motherless little ones you should marry again."

"Do you really think it would be best, darling?" asked the faithful William.

"Yes William, I really do," replied

the invalid. "After a reasonable length of time you should seek the companionship of some good woman."

"Do you know, my dear," said the husband, "that you have lifted a great burden from my mind? Now, there is that charming widow Jones across the way. She has acted rather friendly toward me ever since you were taken ill. Of course, dear, she could never fill your place, but she is young, plump, and pretty, and I'm sure she would do her best to lessen my grief."

"William Henry Brown!" exclaimed the female whose days were supposed to be numbered, as she partly raised herself up on the pillow, "if you ever dare install that red-headed, freckled-faced, squint-eyed hussy in my shoes, I'll—I'll—!" And then she fainted.

But the next day Mrs. Brown was able to sit up, and two days later she was downstairs.

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Weights 785 lbs. Daily capacity 100 gallons, costs \$550.00 that will produce from natural gas, wood syrup, saw dust or vegetable waste matter Denatured Alcohol 100 to 200 gallons per day at **8 cents cost** per gallon that **sells at 60 cents** per gallon to-day for light, heat and power purposes. We are ready to negotiate with responsible individuals on very liberal terms. No speculative features. The market demands the product. Unquestionable references.

Establish a New Industry at Home

Write to-day.

THE CONTINENTAL NATURAL GAS ALCOHOL CO.
Wheeling, West Virginia, U.S.A.

WALL PLASTER

The "Empire" Brands of Wood Fiber and Cement Wall Plaster are specified on all GOOD construction. Write for booklet and ask your supply man for prices - - - - -

MANITOBA GYPSUM Co. Ltd
WINNIPEG, MAN.

The Largest Jersey Herd in the West

A visit to the farm of Mr. C. A. Julian Sharman near Red Deer.

The Red Deer Advocate gives an account of a visit paid by the mayor and other citizens of that town to the farm of Mr. C. A. Julian Sharman, who possesses the largest Jersey herd in the West, 41 in number, at his place, Old Basing Farm, 3 miles east of Red Deer. At the present time it is by far the largest dairy herd in Alberta, and its quality is of the very best, as Mr. Sharman's is ranked one of the two best dairy herds in Alberta, by the Dairy Departments of the Province. This estimate is based on the yield of butter fat for 1908. Mr. Sharman's may be first in the Province, but the Advocate man could not induce the Dairy Department representative to rank the two herds, beyond saying that Mr. Sharman's was one of the two best.

Mr. Sharman's regular herd was increased last week by the arrival of 19 head from the celebrated Jersey stock of B. H. Bull and Sons, Brampton. They came through in the fast time of eight days but have hardly yet recovered from the knocking of the journey. They comprise seventeen females and two males, and one little stranger extra made her appearance the day after her mother landed at the farm. For the accommodation of his former stock, and the carload which arrived last week, Mr. Sharman has had built this winter a new barn, 90 x 30 x 32ft, with spacious loft to be fitted with hay carrier. The new barn is none too big for all the stock at present quartered there, and three of Mr. Sharman's 1908 herd were away with the Government Stock Judging School.

Though Mr. Sharman has some choice animals in his 1908 herd, he calculates that the new arrivals are the best Jersey stock that ever came west. They are from the noted butter making families of Arthur's Golden Fox, Blue Blood of Dentonia—the best bull ever owned in Canada—St. Lambert, one of the famous prize winning sires of past days, Massenas and Mayorams.

Among the lot Mr. Sharman has just brought out are:

Spot Cash Ella 3rd, whose dam gave over 10,000 pounds of milk last year.

Lady of Dentonia Manor, who gave 5000 pounds of milk in 30 weeks as a three year old.

Brampton Heroine, who milked 30 pounds a day with her first calf, and whose dam Majoram's Blossom with 50 pounds a day, took the Championship at the Dominion Fair.

Brampton Pet Daisy, whose sire Blue Blood of Dentonia, had many daughters who gave over 40 pounds of milk a day and whose dam, owned by the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, gave 48 lbs a day.

Brampton Belvoir Girl, whose dam the Champion of Canada, milked 50 pounds a day at the Toronto Fair, producing over 20 pounds of butter in a week and whose dam's sister gave 2000 pounds of milk in one month.

Majoram's Blossom, milking 40 to 50 pounds of milk a day, who was the Champion silver medal cow at the Dominion Fair.

Anne of Avondale, twice champion dairy female any age or breed, with daughters giving 17 lbs of butter a week.

Maud of Lawn Ridge, milking 45 lbs a day.

Marguerite, sired by a son of Blue Blood of Dentonia, her dam entered on the register of merit, giving 10,000 lbs of milk with her last calf, and 12,000 lbs with this calf.

Lawn Ridge May, who was giving 40 pounds of milk a day when she left Brampton.

At the World's Fair at St. Louis, the Jersey stood first as the best dairy cow for all purposes, and also the most economical producer of butter fat. Mr. Sharman's Croppy of Belvidere produced 451 1-2 pounds of kutter last year, while the average of all the Alberta herds reported to the Provincial Dairy Commissioners' office was 110 pounds, or less than one fourth the quantity.

Mr. Sharman brought in the last carload for the purpose of selling them in the Province and he has already orders for several of the heifers and cows. His experience has made him an enthusiast as to the butter-producing qualities of the Jersey and her adaptation to the ordinary dairy conditions of this Province. Mr. Sharman deserves the highest praise for his enterprise in bringing such valuable dairy cattle into the Province, and the Advocate sincerely hopes that the farmers of the Province will take advantage of the opportunity of getting such choice butter producing stock.

Is Heroic Treatment Necessary.

In its issue of March 3rd, the Farmers' Advocate indulged in a spasm of patting itself on the back because it had informed the public of the contents of the Pork Commission's report before any other publication was able to do so. Granting all the Advocate claims for itself in the matter of speed in informing the farmers of Alberta that the things they have been asking for have been granted, it immediately turned around and told them they did not deserve it; that they hadn't lost enough of money in the business to justify the commission in advising that the Provincial Government interfere in the packing business and that the Advocate knew of a better way than that. But it declined to tell what that better way is. It must have regarded its little scheme as being something too good to tell. But it seems to realize that it will have to speak up if it wishes to retain the confidence of the farmers, so on March 10th it contained the following:

"From March 21st, 1907, to March 31st, 1908, Canada received from the United States 29,983,640 pounds of pork products, valued at \$2,834,311, made up as follows:

	Pounds	Value
Pure lard	11,691,325	\$1,063,553
Compound lard	698,850	64,828
Bacon & hams	7,307,949	852,301
Pork in barrels	8,966,365	704,779
Pork, dried and smoked	1,318,151	148,850

"These hog products were produced by American farmers, on land worth from \$50 to \$150 per acre, and by the use of grain that sells for higher prices than ours, so much higher, in fact, that the better price on the American side is a constant conundrum to us in Canada. Nor is the labor required to produce hogs cheaper in the States, and, as for combines, which are supposed to keep down prices, the American meat producer is represented as being at the mercy of the original beasts of the jungle."

"The logical conclusion of a study of the situation is that our own abattoir systems exact too large a toll for their services, due partly to the smaller supplies, and, also, that there is a possibility of making money raising hogs under the conditions which exist in Western Canada."

In connection with the foregoing we wish to refer to the Advocate's comments a short time ago on the report of the pork commission. It said then that conditions in Alberta could hardly justify the heroic treatment recommended by the commission, and that there was a simpler and a better way for doing this. Here is the condition: practically three million dollars worth of pork and lard imported from the United States into Canada in 1908, caused in part by the fact that our abattoirs exact too large a toll for their services.

It is exactly this condition that caused the farmers of Alberta to demand the heroic treatment recommended by the commission; but since the Advocate knows a better way, we would strongly urge that it inform the farmers as to what it is while there is yet time. Surely the importation of \$3,000,000.00 worth of pork products in one year caused in part by the abattoirs exacting too large tolls for their services is a condition which should arouse the Advocate sufficiently to give out the best there is in it and since it knows of a better and less heroic method of dealing with the pork industry than that recommended by the commission we trust it will not fail to tell the farmers what it is. It is up to our contemporary to put us wise.



Synopsis of Canadian North-West Land Regulations

Any person who is the sole head of a family or any male over 18 years old, may homestead a quarter-section of available Dominion land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta.

The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Lands Agency or Sub-Agency for the district. Entry by proxy may be made at any agency, on certain conditions, by father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader.

Duties—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother, or sister.

In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter-section alongside his homestead. Price \$3.00 per acre. Duties—Must reside six months in each of six years from date of homestead entry (including the time required to earn homestead patent) and cultivate fifty acres extra.

A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right and cannot obtain a pre-emption may take a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price, \$3.00 per acre. Duties—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate fifty acres and erect a house worth \$300.

W. W. CORY,

Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

FULMER & RUNNALLS

Successors to Canadian North West Co. Real Estate, Loans, Insurance

We solicit your business, and any work entrusted to us will be sure of our best endeavors to make it satisfactory.

If you have a farm, or other property to sell, kindly let us have it on our list. If you wish to buy or exchange, see what we have before you put up your money.

Office 140 Jasper W., Opp. HB Stores Phone, 1654

Frank Fulmer. - Martin Runnalls.

Alberta Homestead Ads.

Bring Quick Results

Agents Wanted!

The Alberta Homestead wishes to secure agents in every district in Alberta. Such a paper will be turned out week after week that little difficulty should be experienced in securing all in your neighborhood as subscribers. We are prepared to pay a Liberal Commission to all agents and it will be possible to make considerable money without having to leave your ordinary occupation or go far from home to do so. As only one agent will be appointed for each district, anyone interested should write without delay for terms to :

The Circulation Manager,

The Alberta Homestead

Box 1879, Edmonton

Short Course at Lacombe

(Continued from page 1)

lecture on Forestry was given by Mr. A. Knechtel, Superintendent Dominion Forest Reserve, Department of the Interior, Ottawa. Mr. Knechtel delivered a very superior lecture, using colored slides for illustration purposes. His scenes were drawn from Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, United States and the Canadian Rockies. During the course of the lecture Mr. Knechtel stated that although he had travelled extensively throughout European countries, he had never yet looked upon scenery which even equalled that of our own Canadian Rockies. His lecture was not only entertaining, but highly practical.

The School closed with the grain judging and live stock judging competitions in which each contestant judged not merely a single variety of grain and live stock, but all of the standard varieties of grain and the different classes of live stock. The entries for the grain judging numbered 48 and that for the live stock judging 45. Prizes were awarded for the most successful judge in these contests as follows:

WINNERS OF TROPHIES AT SHORT COURSE IN AGRICULTURE.

Trophy for best in beef cattle, presented by M. D. Geddes, Calgary, winner, L. J. Hextall, Calgary.

Trophy for best in dairy cattle, presented by W. J. Tregillus, Calgary: F. H. Duckett, Lacombe.

Trophy for best in horses, presented by Bryce Wright, De Winton, winner, O. Rosenberger, Airdrie.

Winner of Hutton Trophy: W. R. Winslow, Lacombe.

Trophy for best in grain judging, presented by W. F. Puffer, M.L.A., Lacombe, winner, F. H. Duckett, Lacombe.

Grand Challenge prizes, presented by Board of Trade, Lacombe, 1st, A. Ross, Red Deer; 2nd, Percy Harding, Lacombe; 3rd, P. M. Ballantine, Lacombe; 4th, W. H. Lank, Vegreville.

TESTING YOUR VOCABULARY.

The following poem is one of the best specimens of macaronic verse in existence, and worthy of preservation. Its author is unknown. Five languages are represented: English, French, German, Greek and Latin.

In tempus old a hero lived
Qui loved puellas deux;
He ne pouvait pas quite to say,
Which one amabat mieux.

Dit-il lui-meme un beau matin
"Non possum both avoir,
Sed si address Amanda Ann,
Then Kate and I have war.

Amanda habet argent coin,
Sed Kate has aureas curls:
Et both sunt very agathe
Et quite formosae girls."

Enfin the youthful anthropos.
Philoun the duo maids,
Resolved proponere ad Kate
Devant cet evenng's shades.

Procedens then to Kate's domo,
Il trouve Amanda there,
Kai quite forgot his late resolves
Both sunt so goodly fair.

Sed smiling on the new tapis.
Between puellas twain,
Coepit to tell his love a Kate
Dans un poetique strain.

Mais, glancing ever et anon
At fair Amanda's eyes,
Illae non possunt dicere
Pro which he meant his sighs.

Each virgo heard the demi-vow,
With cheeks as rouge as wine,
And off'ring each a milk-white hand,
Both whispered, "Ich bin dein."

FARMERS'

WANT AND FOR SALE

COLUMN

One Cent per word each insertion. Six insertions for the price of four.

FOR SALE—One mile from Mayton store, 1600 acres high grade farming land; good soil and no waste; very easy terms. Alfred Aspinall, Innisfail, Alta. 9-15.

FOR SALE—A thoroughbred Jersey Bull Calf. For particulars regarding pedigree and price apply to W. J. MacQuarrie, Yellow Grass, Sask. 9-11.

THE MAW POULTRY FARM Parkdale Post Office, near Winnipeg. Acclimatised utility breeds, turkeys, geese, ducks, chickens, incubators and poultry supplies. Large catalogue mailed free. 7-12.

SITUATION WANTED.—Situation wanted by married couple, wife as plain cook, husband cook and handy man; used to farm work. Correspond with Wm. Beken, Wesley, Ont. 7-12.

FOR SALE, OR TRADE FOR LAND, one Reeves 25 H.P. cross-compound plowing engine and Cockshutt 10-gang plow, both in first class shape. Used only one year. H. G. Stillson, 257 Galena St., Aurora, Ill. 6-11.

FOR SALE—The imported Percheron stallion "Unterwald" (47621). Pedigree and all other information on application to Sec.-Treas. Glenboro Percheron Syndicate, Box 14, Glenboro, Man. 7-12.

BERKSHIRES FOR SALE—Of both sexes. I have a number of fine Gits, some bred to my Herd boar and safe in pig. All are eligible to record. If you are going to raise hogs raise something from which you can get good results. Willow dell Stock Farm, James A. Colvin, proprietor, Sedgewick, Alta. 7-12.

REGISTERED HEREFORD STOCK—21 head in all, comprising several fine cows and heifers; also bulls of all ages from yearlings to 5 years old, all prize takers; will be sold as a lot or separately. William Hodge, Innisfail, Alta. 7-12.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.—Buff Orpington, Barred Rocks, Columbian Wyandottes. Seven pens of choice birds; have won 14 prizes. Eggs \$1.50 setting. Pincher Creek Poultry Yards, Alta. 9-14.

TO RENT—South-east 1-4 section 20-40-18, eighty acres broken. Inquire of Henry Bignell, Stettler. 8-13.

FOR SALE—Several blocks of choice fruit lands, very easy to clear, in Kaslo district, on Kootenay lake. Lake frontage and bench lands; prices ranging from \$6 to \$20 per acre. Greatest snap ever offered in fruit lands in this famous fruit district. For further particulars apply at Lindsay's boat house, foot of Josephine street, Nelson, B.C., 7-12.

South African Land Warrants

320 acres. For sale at lowest cash price. J. C. Biggs & Co. 632 First street, Edmonton.

S.C. RHODE ISLAND REDS—Stock for sale; eggs from special matings; incubator settings.

Tamworths bred sows. Orders booked for spring pigs. Correspondence solicited. Harold Orchard, Lintrathen, Man. 11-16.

FOR SALE—The imported Clydesdale Stallion Heathfield, No. 11742. The most successful foal-getter in the Elkhorn District. Pedigree, photo, and all other information on application to Sec.-Treas. Elkhorn Clydesdale Breeding Association, Box 14, Elkhorn, Man. 11-16.

Having sold out the poultry advertised by me for sale, I am discontinuing advertisement till autumn. Mary N. Stevens, Clover Bar. —11

WANTED—An experienced farm hand. Must be accustomed to horses. Box P, Alberta Homestead. —if

MAN AND WIFE want situations, farm, ranch, or hotel; wife good cook, man can do anything. H. Long, P.O., Winnipeg. —10.

FOR SALE.—Buff Orpington Cockerels, pure bred. Wish to dispose of them at once. Mary N. Stevens, Clover Bar. tf

FOR SALE—Improved and unimproved land, some choice dairy farms, fruit lots of 5 acres and up, near the town of Abbotsford, with three railways.

We have the advantage of first class transportation to all markets. Abbotsford is situated in the centre of the famous Fraser Valley, the California of Canada. For further particulars write H. McCallum, Abbotsford, B.C. 3—if

FOR SALE—Veteran Land Grants 320 acres. J. E. Cunningham, 131 Victoria St., Toronto. How much will you pay? 6-11.

FOR SALE in Okanagan Valley, one mile from Enderby, 20 acres of land, 10 acres cleared, 3 acres bearing orchard, 3 acres plowed ready to plant out in fruit trees, 4 acres rich bottom land with creek running through, 7 roomed house with water piped into house and stable. Stable will hold 7 or 8 head, chicken house for 200 chickens, will be sold cheap, apply R. Mowat, Enderby, B.C. 6-11.

SOUTH AFRICAN SCRIP FOR SALE. Money to Loan. Write A. D. Mabry, National Trust Building, Saskatoon, Sask. 8-11.

FOR SALE—South African scrip for sale. J. A. Flanders, box 612, Winnipeg. 8-13.

SPECIAL OFFER.—One purebred registered Shorthorn Bull, coming three years. One purebred registered cow, six years, in calf, for quick sale. Address, P.O., box 14, Regina, Sask. 4—if

ARE YOU INTENDING TO TAKE A COURSE AT A COMMERCIAL COLLEGE? If so you may save a considerable sum of money by addressing the undersigned, who has an arrangement, with the best business college in Alberta by which he can allow you a year's course, the ordinary fee for which is \$70, for the sum of \$50 cash. For this sum you are entitled to all the privileges open to the student who enters the College in the ordinary way. For full particulars address Box, X Alberta Homestead.

FOR SALE—One section, 640 acres; best in Alberta; well fenced, good buildings; other improvements. Mrs. E. Husband, 129 Main street, W. Hamilton, Ont. 6-15.

SOUTH AFRICAN SCRIP for Sale. Cash and Terms with good acceptable security to Farmers in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Address A. D. Mabry, Saskatoon, Sask. 6-11.

TO RENT.—400 acres of best wheat land, well watered; with or without good dwelling house. For terms apply to Mrs. Wilson, Livingstone, Alta. 6-11.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—For farm horses the well-known registered Clydesdale stallions, Prince Charles Ind and Fidelity, both rising eight-year old, weight 1850 and 1600 lbs; perfectly sound and sure faul getters, en route four seasons. Particulars apply to M. E. Millar, Sedley, Sask., Box 10. 6-11.

HORSES FOR SALE—22 head, 4 years old, all gentle enough for a lady to handle. Mrs. Mertens, Cherry Ranch, Gleichen, Alta. 9-14.

ITALIAN BEES—A few colonies for sale, May delivery. W. E. Cooley, Solsgirth, Man. 11-16.

PERFECTION RAZOR PASTE.—The celebrated razor sharpener. Price 25 cents; if not at your hardware dealers send direct to Canada Hone Co., Wawanesa, Man. 10-15.

GOOD FARM LAND FOR SALE CHEAP.—All section 33, twp. 42, Range 22, west of third. Apply at once to Harry E. Corey, Royal Alexandra Hotel, Winnipeg, Man. 10-15.

STRAYED.—On to the farm of Fraser and Freeman, Clover Bar, red cow with white face, with one horn broken off. Owner can have same by proving property and paying expenses connected therewith 10-12.

FRUIT LAND FOR SALE—One hundred and sixty acres of fruit land one and a half miles southwest of Cranbrook. Running water and two springs. Will sell at a reasonable figure, and give good terms. Address box 245, Cranbrook, B.C. 10-16.

FOR SALE—Five lots situated in the centre of the town of Fort Saskatchewan, cheap for cash or will exchange for horses or cattle. Write P.O. box 1378. Edmonton.

A NEW PIANO FOR SALE

At a large reduction on the regular price. By a business arrangement the advertiser has acquired the right of selecting a \$475 piano from one of the leading piano ware-rooms in Edmonton. He is willing to part with the privilege at a considerable reduction on that price. If you are thinking of making a purchase of an instrument, this opportunity should not be lost. Do not make the mistake of supposing the piano is a second-hand one. You are allowed to choose from a large stock of first-class instruments. For particulars apply box H. Alberta Homestead Office 39 Howard Street, Edmonton.

For Sale

10,000 Acres or more half breed scrip; also South African scrip, and 60,000 acres wild lands in Edmonton district. A lot of improved farms and city and suburban property.

Alberta Colonization Co.

621 FIRST STREET
Phone 1877 Edmonton, Alta.



NOTICE TO ENGINEERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an examination will be held by D. Fraser, a duly appointed Inspector of Steam Boilers for the Province of Alberta at Edmonton, March 15th, Hourston's Hall.

St. Albert, March 16th.
Morinville, March 17th.
Stony Plain, March 19th.
Ft. Saskatchewan, March 22nd.
Bruderheim, March 23rd.
Millet, April 12th.
Leduc, April 13th.

Strathcona, April 14th, Fire Hall. at 9 o'clock a.m. for the purpose of giving engineers and apprentices an opportunity of qualifying for Certificates under the provisions of the Steam Boilers Act, 1906.

Application for examination should be made to the above named inspector or to

JOHN STOCKS,
Deputy Minister.
Department of Public Works,
Edmonton, Alta.

THE Merchants Bank of Canada

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This bank has been doing business with the farmers of Western Canada for over 30 years and will loan money for grass and stall feeding cattle and for feeding hogs. Money loaned on sale notes.

Edmonton Branch, A. C. Fraser, Manager

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AND
Reasonable
TRY THEM



TESTED
AND
SELECTED
TRY THEM

Address: EDMONTON SEED HOUSE, Edmonton Alta.

The Markets

MILL AND ELEVATOR PRICES.

No. 1 Northern Wheat	95c bus
" 2 "	90c "
" 3 "	85c "
" 4 "	75c "
" 5 "	68c "
" 6 "	64c "

Feed Wheat 50c to 55c
Practically no wheat whatever is coming in.

On the local markets the receipts are very fair. Oats are selling on market square at 33 to 36c per bushel. Milling Oats 28 to 35c per bushel.

Scratch Food, \$3 per hundred
Chick Food \$3 per hundred
Linseed Meal, \$4.25 per hundred
Ground Oil Cake, \$3.50 hundred
Heavy Chop, \$1.25 per cwt.
Bran, \$1.10 per cwt.
Middlings, \$1.25 per cwt.
Shorts, \$1.25 per cwt.

HAY.

Ruling prices about as follows:

Baled hay in car lots—
Slough, \$6 to \$8 per ton.
Upland, \$7 to \$9 per ton.
Timothy, \$12 to \$13 per ton.

By the load on market square, new—
Slough, \$6 to \$9 per ton.
Upland, \$8 to \$12 per ton.
Timothy, \$10 to \$14 per ton.

Green Feed
\$7 to \$9 per ton.

Flour, Retail.
Local patent, \$3.25 per cwt.
Strong Bakers, \$2.75 per cwt.
Manitoba, best patent, \$3.60.

PRODUCE MARKET.

Prices quoted are average prices being paid to farmers in quantities.

Eggs.

Strictly Fresh 35c doz. very scarce

Butter.

Fancy dairy, 1 pound prints, 25c. to 30c per pound.

Dairy in crocks and tubs, 18 to 22c per lb. creamery butter 28 to 30c per pound

LIVE STOCK.

Cattle, live weight—Good, fat, heavy Steers 4 to 4½; fat light steers 3½ to 4; cows 2½ to 3½.

Good calves 5c.; heifers 3½ to 4½

Live hogs, 6½c lb.; dressed 7c lb.

Live sheep, 5 to 5½c per pound.

Lamb 5½-6c

Coal, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per ton.

Wood, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per load

POULTRY.

Turkeys—18 to 20c per lb., dressed
Old hens, 10-12½c per lb., dressed.
Spring chickens, dressed, 12½-15c. lb.

Vegetables.

Turnips, 50c bus.

Carrots, 60c bus.

Parsnips, 90c to 95c bus.

Beets, 60c bus.

Potatoes 60c to 75c. per bus.

THE GRAIN MARKETS.

Winnipeg, March 15—Cables came unchanged to 3-4 lower and American markets opened weak, Winnipeg options unchanged to 1-4 higher. The market was steady and featureless throughout the session, and cash wheat closed 1-4 down for contract grades, May 1-4, and July 3-8 lower. There was export inquiry for lower grades and a limited quantity of No.

4 was worked. Cash demand for lower grades was fair. Chicago May lacked support and closed 7-8 lower, July 3-4 and September 3-8 down. In Minneapolis the decline was 1-2 for May, 5-8 for July and 1-8 for September. World's shipments for last week were 10,512,000, a decline of 268,000, from last week, and 1,000,000 from last year. Shipments were somewhat larger than had been expected and this accounted for some of the weakness in Liverpool. American visible is practically unchanged from last week, and nearly 4,000,000 less than last year. Canadian visible showed a slight increase for the week, but is still more than 200,000 less than at this time last year. Shipments for the week were greater than those of last year, and came near the 500,000 mark. Receipts at Winnipeg over Sunday amounted to 304 cars against 323 last year.

Winnipeg cash wheat: No. 1 Northern, \$1.10 1-2; No. 2, \$1.07 1-2; No. 3, \$1.05 3-4; No. 4, \$1 1-2; No. 5, 93; No. 6, 85 1-4; feed 1, 77; rejected 1-1 northern, \$1.06 1-2; rejected 1-2 northern, \$1.03 1-2; rejected 1-3 northern, \$1 3-4; rejected 2-1 northern, \$1.04 1-2; rejected 2-2 northern, \$1.01 1-2; rejected 2-3 northern, 98 3-4; rejected 2-3 northern, 98 3-4; rejected 1 northern for seeds, \$1.03; rejected 2 northern for seeds, \$1.

Winter wheat: No. 1 Alberta red, \$1.09.

Oats: No. 2 White, 42 1-2; No. 3 white 41 1-2; feed 1, 41 1-2; feed 2, 40 1-2.

Barley: No. 3, 52; No. 4, 51, feed 45 1-2.

Flax: No. 1 N.W., \$1.31 1 2; No. 1 Manitoba, \$1.29 1-2.

Wheat: March, \$1.10 3-4, \$1.103-8; May, \$1.13, \$1.125-8; July, \$1.141-4, \$1.13 7-8.

Oats: May 42 3-8, 42 3-8; July 44 1-8, 44; September, 44 3-4, 44 1-4.

Flax: March, \$1.31, \$1.31; May, \$1.35, \$1.34 3-8.

American options: Chicago, May, \$1.16 3-4; \$1.16 1-4; July, \$1.05 1-8, \$1.05 5-8; September, 98 3-8, 98 1-2.

Minneapolis, May, \$1.15 1-8 \$1.15; July, \$1.16, \$1.15 5-8.

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Edmonton.

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EDMONTON

\$50.00

To be

Given Away

We want a name to use as a brand for a new breakfast food we are preparing to place on the market. To the person sending us what we consider the most fitting name we will pay \$25.00 in cash.

Anyone can submit as many names as they wish. The only requirement is that you send with each name one guarantee coupon which you will find in every bag of Ritchie's Hungarian Patent Flour.

Competition closes the first of April, 1909.

This breakfast food is made from the purest of wheat, finely flaked and sterilized, requiring only a few minutes cooking to make a delicious porridge, containing all the material needed in a digestible form for nourishing the human body and gratifying the palate.

Every 98 pound bag of Ritchie's Hungarian Patent Flour contains one Orange Guarantee Coupon, and every 49 pound bag one Red Guarantee Coupon. We will give \$15 in cash for the largest number of Orange Guarantee Coupons, and \$10 in cash for the largest number of Red Guarantee Coupons returned to us by any one person by April 1, 1909.

Ritchie's Hungarian Patent is an excellent flour for light, white nicely flavored bread, biscuits, and buns. Ask your grocer for it, and have a trial for one or all of our prizes.

None of our employees or those in any way connected with the company will be permitted to enter into the competition.

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